

# Activity Review

North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

1101 Oberlin Rd., Ste. 104 • PO Box 12827 • Raleigh, NC 27605 • 919-733-4222 • nccpaboard.gov • No. 07-2015

## 21 NCAC 08G .0409, Computation of CPE Credits, Amended Effective July 1, 2015

The North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners has amended 21 NCAC 08G .0409, Computation of CPE Credits, to allow 25 minutes of CPE to be counted as one-half CPE credit. The amended rule is effective for CPE that is completed on or after July 1, 2015. The text of the amended rule is shown below; language that was removed is indicated by a strike-through (example) and new language is underlined (example).

## 21 NCAC 08G .0409 COMPUTATION OF CPE CREDITS

(a) Group Courses: Non-College. CPE credit for a group course that is not part of a college curriculum shall be given based on contact hours. A contact hour shall be 50 minutes of instruction. One-half credit instruction and one-half contact hour shall be equal to 25 minutes of instruction. after the first credit hour has been earned in a formal learning activity. For example, a group course lasting 100 minutes shall be two contact hours equaling two CPE credits. A group course lasting 75 minutes shall be one and one-half contact hours equaling one and one-half CPE credits. A group course lasting 25 minutes shall be one-half contact hour and equal to one-half CPE credit. When individual segments of a group course are less than 50 minutes, the sum of the individual segments shall be added to determine the number of contact hours. For example, five 30-minute presentations shall be 150 minutes, which shall be three contact hours and three CPE credits. No credit shall be allowed for a segment unless the participant completes the entire segment. Internet based programs shall employ a monitoring mechanism to verify that participants are participating during the duration of the course. No credit shall be allowed for a group course having fewer than 25 minutes of course instruction.

- (b) Completing a College Course. CPE credit for completing a college course in the college curriculum shall be granted based on the number of credit hours the college gives the CPA for completing the course. One semester hour of college credit shall be 15 CPE credits; one quarter hour of college credit shall be 10 CPE credits; and one continuing education unit shall be 10 CPE credits. No CPE credit shall be given to a CPA who audits a college course.
- (c) Self Study. CPE credit for a self-study course shall be given based on the average number of contact hours needed to complete the course. The average completion time shall be allowed for CPE credit. A sponsor must shall determine on the basis of pretests or NASBA word count formula the average number of contact hours of course material it takes to com-

Amended Rule continued on page 9

## Letters of Demand Sent to CPAs Who Did Not Renew by July 1

The Board has sent a Letter of Demand to each North Carolina CPA who failed to renew his or her license or request inactive status by July 1, 2015.

Failure of an individual to submit the completed renewal or request inactive status within 30 days of the mailing of the Letter of Demand automatically results in forfeiture of the CPA's certificate, as required by NCGS 93-12(15).

Upon forfeiture of a certificate, the individual cannot use the CPA title in any way, and he or she must return his or her CPA certificate to the Board within 15 days of the notice of forfeiture.

The online license renewal link will remain available on the Board's website, www.nccpaboard .gov, through the end of July; the form to request inactive status is on the Forms and Applications page of the website.

## In This Issue

Disciplinary Actions	2-6
Cease & Desist Agreements	.7-8
Board Meetings	8
Certificates Issued	9
Inactive Status	. 10
Contact the Board	11

## DEBRA HILL BEDFORD, #30362 Goldsboro, NC 05/21/2015

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners (the "Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, at public hearing ("Hearing"), with a quorum present, the Board finds, based on the evidence presented at the Hearing on May 21, 2015, that:

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- Respondent, Debra Hill Bedford, is the holder of a certificate as a Certified Public Accountant in North Carolina.
- 2. The Board has jurisdiction over Respondent and the subject matter of this action.
- Respondent received at least fifteen (15) days written notice of the Hearing. The notice was achieved by serving a Notice of Hearing via process server.
- 4. Venue is proper and the Hearing was properly held at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 5. Respondent did not object to any Board Member's participation in the Hearing of this matter.
- Respondent was not present at the Hearing and was not represented by counsel. Respondent's failure to attend the hearing or otherwise respond to the Notice of Hearing is an aggravating factor.
- Respondent had a registered CPA firm, Debra Hill Bedford, CPA, P.A. She failed to timely renew that firm's registration for the 2013 calendar year. Respondent Bedford was responsible for her firm's renewals.
- 8. Despite several attempts by the Board's staff, Respondent, for a period in excess of 120 days, failed to renew her firm's registration, cancel her firm's registra-

- tion, or otherwise communicate with the Board staff. All attempts to communicate with Respondent were via mail and email addresses that were provided to the Board by the Respondent.
- Based upon Respondent's failure to comply with the firm registration requirements and her failure to communicate with the Board staff, the staff initiated a disciplinary investigation against her.
- 10. A second disciplinary investigation was initiated following a complaint filed by one of Respondent's clients alleging that Respondent had failed to return client records. Respondent never provided evidence that she had provided those records to the client, either before or after the complaint was initiated.
- 11. During the course of both investigations, Respondent was repeatedly untimely with her responses or non-responsive to the Board's inquiries.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §150B-42, this Board Order constitutes a Final Agency Decision of the Board.
- 2. Respondent is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code. Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), the Board has the authority to impose discipline upon the Respondent and Respondent's certificate and to impose civil monetary penalties.
- 3. Respondent's failure, for a period in excess of 120 days, to communicate with the Board staff in order to comply with the Board's firm registration requirements constitutes a willful violation of the Board's firm registration requirements at 21 NCAC 08J .0108 and is a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0213.

- Respondent's failure to provide client records in her possession to a client following a demand for their return is a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0305.
- Respondent's repeated failure to respond to Board correspondence within 21 days, if at all, constitutes a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0206.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING**, the Board orders in a vote of seven (7) to zero (0) that:

- The Certified Public Accountant certificate issued to Respondent, Debra Hill Bedford, is hereby permanently revoked.
- 2. Respondent Debra Hill Bedford shall not offer or render services as a CPA or otherwise trade upon or use the CPA title in this State either through CPA mobility provisions or substantial equivalency practice privileges or in any other manner, nor shall Respondent claim or attempt to use any practice privileges in any other state based upon her revoked North Carolina certificate.

## AMY G. BROWN, #21055 AMY G. BROWN, CPA, P.C. Newland, NC 06/22/2015

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and the Respondent stipulate to the following:

- Amy G. Brown (hereinafter "Respondent") is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 21055 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- 2. Amy G. Brown, CPA, P.C. (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina.

- At all relevant times, the Respondent was the supervising CPA of the Respondent Firm and, as such, was the CPA responsible for ensuring that the Board's peer review requirements were satisfied.
- 4. The Respondent Firm had received a peer review for the year ended September 30, 2012. However, it was later discovered that the Respondent Firm had conducted an audit of an employee benefit plan. That audit had not been identified by the Respondents to the peer reviewer.
- Per the peer review rules, if a firm performs an audit of an employee benefit plan during the relevant time period, at least one such plan must be subjected to peer review.
- 6. At the beginning of the peer review process, firms must complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire specifically requires the firm to review a list of audit engagements, including employee benefit plan audits, and identify whether the firm has performed any of those engagements.
- As a result of the failure to identify its employee benefit plan audit engagement(s), the Respondent firm's peer review was recalled.
   The Respondent firm received a "fail" on its ensuing system peer review report.
- 8. The peer review report cited a deficiency in the Respondent firm's quality control policies and procedures that led to the failure to initially disclose its employee benefit plan audit to the peer reviewer. It also indicated that the personnel at the Respondent firm had inadequate training or experience to provide the specialized services related to an employee benefit plan audit.
- 9. The Respondents have indicated that they do not desire to contin-

- ue performing audits of employee benefit plans.
- 10. The peer review report also noted that the professional personnel in the Respondent firm had not taken CPE necessary to stay current on recent changes in accounting and review services, which led to compilations that did not meet all professional standards.
- 11. The Respondents wish to resolve this matter by consent and agree that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. The Respondents understand and agree that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- The Respondents are subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- 2. The Respondent should have known that the Respondent firm conducted an employee benefit plan audit during the relevant peer review period and further, should have known that the audit was required to be disclosed to the peer reviewer. The failure to disclose the employee benefit plan audit to the peer reviewer constitutes a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0202(a).
- The Respondent firm's failure to perform an employee benefit plan audit in accordance with standards constitutes a viola-

- tion of the Statements on Auditing Standards in violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0403 and .0212.
- The Respondent firm's failure to perform a compilation in accordance with standards constitutes a violation of the Statement on Standards for Accounting and Review Services in violation of 21 NCAC .0404 and .0212.
- 5. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9) and also by virtue of the Respondent's consent to this order, the Respondents are subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and the Respondents agree to the following Order:

- Based upon the failure to initially disclose an employee benefit plan audit to the peer reviewer:
  - a. The Respondent's CPA certificate shall be revoked for one (1) year. However, the revocation is stayed if all requirements of this Consent Order are met and the Respondent is not found to have violated the peer review rules during that period.
  - b. The Respondent firm's registration shall be canceled for one (1) year. However, the cancellation is stayed if all requirements of this Consent Order are met and the Respondent firm is not found to have violated the peer review rules during that period.
  - c. The Respondent firm shall pay a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) civil penalty to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.
  - d. The Respondent firm shall pay a five hundred dollar (\$500.00) administrative cost to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.
  - e. Prior to the Respondent firm's next peer review, the Respon-

- dent must take four (4) hours of group-study CPE, specifically covering the peer review process and/or getting ready for peer review.
- 2. Based upon the failure to perform services in accordance with standards:
  - The Respondent firm is censured.
  - The Respondent firm shall provide a written statement to the Board that it will no longer participate in, perform, or review ERISA audits.
  - c. Prior to the Respondent firm's next peer review, each staff member participating in engagements subject to peer review must take four (4) hours of group-study CPE on SSARS annually until the firm receives a pass on a system review or a pass or pass with deficiencies on an engagement review.
  - d. Prior to the Respondent firm participating in, performing, or reviewing any future ERISA audits subject to peer review, the Respondent firm must first:
    - i. Require that each staff member participating in engagements subject to peer review take eight (8) hours of group-study CPE on ERISA audits prior to beginning the engagement.
    - ii. Be subject to pre-issuance review by a reviewer approved by the Board until the Board determines that pre-issuance review is no longer necessary.
- Any CPE completed in conformance with this Consent Order may be counted towards the individual's annual CPE requirement.

4. The Respondents agree that failure to comply with any terms of this agreement shall be deemed sufficient grounds to lift the stays set forth above.

## KATHY R. HARDY, #22299 KATHY ROSE HARDY, CPA Marshville, NC 06/22/2015

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and the Respondent stipulate to the following:

- Kathy R. Hardy (hereinafter "Respondent") is the holder of North Carolina certificate number 22299 as a Certified Public Accountant.
- 2. Kathy Rose Hardy, CPA (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina.
- At all relevant times, the Respondent was the supervising CPA of the Respondent Firm and, as such, was the CPA responsible for ensuring that the Board's peer review requirements were satisfied.
- 4. The Respondent firm had received a peer review for the year ended December 31, 2010. However, it was later discovered that the Respondent firm had conducted an audit of an employee benefit plan. That audit had not been identified by the Respondents to the peer reviewer.
- Per the peer review rules, if a firm performs an audit of an employee benefit plan during the relevant time period, at least one such plan must be subjected to peer review.
- At the beginning of the peer review process, firms must complete a questionnaire. The questionnaire specifically requires the firm to review a list of audit engagements, including employee

- benefit plan audits, and identify whether the firm has performed any of those engagements.
- 7. As a result of the failure to identify its employee benefit plan audit engagement(s), the Respondent firm's peer review was recalled. The Respondent firm received a "pass with deficiencies" on its ensuing system peer review report.
- The peer review report cited a deficiency in the Respondent firm's quality control policies and procedures that led to the failure to initially disclose its employee benefit plan audit to the peer reviewer.
- 9. The Respondents wish to resolve this matter by consent and agree that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. The Respondents understand and agree that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- The Respondents are subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- 2. The Respondent should have known that the Respondent Firm conducted an employee benefit plan audit during the relevant peer review period, and further should have known that the audit was required to be disclosed to the peer reviewer. The failure to disclose the employee benefit plan audit to the peer reviewer constitutes a violation of

21 NCAC 08N .0202(a).

 Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9) and also by virtue of the Respondents' consent to this order, the Respondents are subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and the Respondents agree to the following Order:

- The Respondent's CPA certificate shall be revoked for one (1) year. However, the revocation is stayed if all requirements of this Consent Order are met and the Respondent is not found to have violated the peer review rules during that period.
- 2. The Respondent Firm's registration shall be canceled for one (1) year. However, the cancellation is stayed if all requirements of this Consent Order are met and the Respondent Firm is not found to have violated the peer review rules during that period.
- The Respondent Firm shall pay a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) civil penalty to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.
- The Respondent Firm shall pay a five hundred dollar (\$500.00) administrative cost to be remitted with this signed Consent Order.
- 5. Prior to the Respondent Firm's next peer review, the Respondent must take four (4) hours of groupstudy CPE, specifically covering the peer review process and/or getting ready for peer review.
- The Respondents agree that failure to comply with any terms of this agreement shall be deemed sufficient grounds to lift the stays set forth above.

## JAMES MICHAEL TEAL Rockingham, NC 05/21/2015

**THIS CAUSE**, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum

present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

- James Michael Teal (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), is a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina.
- 2. Respondent Firm received a "fail" on its most recent system peer review, with an acceptance letter date of August 26, 2014.
- The peer review report noted a material departure from Generally Accepted Auditing Standards ("GAAS") by Respondent Firm, including a failure to locate some of the required audit documentation.
- 4. Respondent Firm wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Respondent Firm understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- Respondent Firm is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- Respondent Firm's failure to perform attest and assurance services in accordance to standards constitutes a violation of the Statements on Auditing Standards in violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0403 and .0212.

 By virtue of Respondent Firm's consent to this order, Respondent Firm is subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent Firm agree to the following Order:

- 1. Respondent Firm is censured.
- Respondent Firm shall provide a written statement to the Board that it will no longer be participating in, performing, or reviewing any audit engagements.
- Prior to Respondent Firm participating in, performing, or reviewing any audits, Respondent Firm shall be required to complete the following:
  - Respondent Firm shall provide notification to the Board of Respondent Firm's intention to enter into audit engagements;
  - b. Each of Respondent Firm's professional staff participating in engagements subject to peer review shall complete eight (8) hours of groupstudy CPE coursework related to Audit Documentation as part of their annual CPE requirements until such time as Respondent Firm receives a pass on a system peer review; and
  - c. Pre-issuance reviews, to be performed by a pre-issuance reviewer approved by the Board, for all audit engagements until a determination is made by the Board that pre-issuance review is no longer necessary.

# BRUNSON, WILKERSON, BOWDEN & ASSOCIATES, P.C. *Enterprise, AL* 06/22/2015

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh,

Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

- Brunson, Wilkerson, Bowden & Associates, P.C. (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), has a principal place of business outside of North Carolina and has no office in North Carolina. Respondent Firm is not a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina.
- Respondent Firm performed multiple audits of a retirement plan sponsored in North Carolina ("ERISA audits").
- 3. The North Carolina Accountancy Act, at N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c)(3), requires firms to provide notice without a fee to the Board prior to performing financial statement audits or other engagements performed in accordance with the Statements on Auditing Standards. The members or partners of Respondent Firm were unaware of the notice requirement.
- Respondent Firm did not provide the Board with a Notification of Intent to Practice ("Notice") prior to performing the ERISA audits.
- 5. Respondent Firm subsequently provided a Notice to the Board.
- 6. Respondent Firm wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Respondent Firm understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

- 1. Respondent Firm is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- By exercising the practice privilege afforded by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c) of the Accountancy Act, Respondent Firm consented to comply with the laws of this State and to be subject to the jurisdiction and disciplinary authority of the Board.
- Respondent Firm's failure to comply with N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c) of the Accountancy Act as set out above constitutes a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0213.
- 4. Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), 93-10(b) and also by virtue of Respondent Firm's consent to this order, Respondent Firm is subject to the discipline set forth below.

**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent Firm agree to the following Order:

- 1. Respondent Firm shall remit, with this signed Order, a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) civil penalty.
- 2. Respondent Firm shall remit, with this signed Order, a five hundred dollar (\$500) payment for administrative costs.

## BURR PILGER MAYER, INC. San Franciso, CA 06/22/2015

THIS CAUSE, coming before the North Carolina State Board of CPA Examiners ("Board") at its offices at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, with a quorum present. Pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §150B-41, the Board and Respondent stipulate to the following:

- Burr Pilger Mayer, Inc. (hereinafter "Respondent Firm"), has a principal place of business outside of North Carolina and has no office in North Carolina. Respondent Firm is not a registered certified public accounting firm in North Carolina.
- Respondent Firm performed multiple audits of a retirement plan sponsored in North Carolina ("ERISA audits").
- 3. The North Carolina Accountancy Act, at N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c)(3), requires firms to provide notice without a fee to the Board prior to performing financial statement audits or other engagements performed in accordance with the Statements on Auditing Standards. The members or partners of Respondent Firm were unaware of the notice requirement.
- Respondent Firm did not provide the Board with a Notification of Intent to Practice ("Notice") prior to performing the ERISA audits.
- 5. Respondent Firm subsequently provided a Notice to the Board.
- 6. Respondent Firm wishes to resolve this matter by consent and agrees that the Board staff and counsel may discuss this Consent Order with the Board ex parte, whether or not the Board accepts this Consent Order as written. Respondent Firm understands and agrees that this Consent Order is subject to review and approval by the Board and is not effective until approved by the Board at a duly constituted Board Meeting.

**BASED UPON THE FOREGOING**, the Board makes the following Conclusions of Law:

 Respondent Firm is subject to the provisions of Chapter 93 of the North Carolina General Statutes and Title 21, Chapter 08 of the North

- Carolina Administrative Code, including the Rules of Professional Ethics and Conduct promulgated and adopted therein by the Board.
- By exercising the practice privilege afforded by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c) of the Accountancy Act, Respondent Firm consented to comply with the laws of this State and to be subject to the jurisdiction and disciplinary authority of the Board.
- 3. Respondent Firm's failure to

- comply with N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-10(c) of the Accountancy Act as set out above constitutes a violation of 21 NCAC 08N .0213.
- Per N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(9), 93-10(b) and also by virtue of Respondent Firm's consent to this order, Respondent Firm is subject to the discipline set forth below.

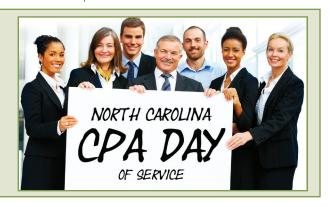
**BASED ON THE FOREGOING** and in lieu of further proceedings, the Board and Respondent Firm agree to the following Order:

- Respondent Firm shall remit, with this signed Order, a one thousand dollar (\$1,000) civil penalty.
- Respondent Firm shall remit, with this signed Order, a five hundred dollar (\$500) payment for administrative costs.

## 2015 Day of Service

It's official! North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory signed the proclamation document officially proclaiming September 18, 2015, as "CPA Day of Service in North Carolina." That means it's time for you to go out into your community and serve!

Register today at www.ncacpa.org/service and be a part of the volunteer event that brings thousands of CPAs and other financial professionals together in service across the State.



## Notice of Apparent Violation and Agreement to Cease and Desist

Philip Roy Witmer Boone, NC 04/21/2015

To the Above-Named Respondent:

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners ("Board") is authorized by N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(16) to enforce the provisions of the North Carolina Certified Public Accountant Act ("Act") through actions for injunctive relief regarding "a single violation" of this Chapter; and,

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-1, "A 'certified public accountant' is a person who holds a certificate as a certified public accountant issued to him under the provisions of this Chapter."

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-3, "It shall be unlawful for any person who has not received a certificate of qualification or not been granted a practice privilege under

N.C.G.S. §93-10 admitting the person to practice as a certified public accountant to assume or use such a title, or to use any words, letters, abbreviations, symbols or other means of identification to indicate that the person using same has been admitted to practice as a certified public accountant."

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-6, "It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the public practice of accountancy in this State who is not a holder of a certificate as a certified public accountant issued by the Board, unless such person uses the term 'accountant' and only the term 'accountant' in connection with his name on all reports, letters of transmittal, or advice, and on all stationery and documents used in connection with his services as an accountant, and refrains from the use in any manner of any other title or designation in such practice."

WHEREAS, Respondent Philip Roy Witmer (hereinafter "Respondent") is not actively licensed as a certified public accountant in North Carolina or otherwise authorized by the Board to use the CPA title in this State, but his principal place of business is in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Respondent, in March of 2007, applied for, and was granted, "inactive" status for his North Carolina CPA license. As part of that application, Respondent agreed that "I certify under oath that I will not identify myself as a CPA to any person in any manner ... as long as I remain on inactive status...."

**WHEREAS**, subsequent to choosing inactive status, Respondent identified himself as a "Certified Public Accountant in the state of Pennsylvania (currently inactive)" while engaged in accounting education in the State of North Carolina.

## Notice of Apparent Violation and Agreement to Cease and Desist

THEREFORE, Respondent and the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners hereby agree that Respondent shall immediately cease and desist from offering or using in any manner the title "CPA" or "Certified Public Accountant" in North Carolina unless and until licensed as a CPA by the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners.

## North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

By: Robert N. Brooks, Executive Director Date: 02/25/2015

In lieu of civil proceedings authorized by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(16), the Board will accept Respondent's consent to this Demand.

Consented to By: Philip Roy Witmer Date: 03/11/2015

## MICHAEL JAMES SCHIERBEEK Moncure, NC 05/21/2015

To the Above-Named Respondent:

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners ("Board") is authorized by N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(16) to enforce the provisions of the North Carolina Certified Public Accountant Act ("Act") through actions for injunctive relief regarding "a single violation" of this Chapter; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-1, "A 'certified public accountant' is a person who holds a certificate as a certified public accountant issued to him under the provisions of this Chapter."

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-3, "It shall be unlawful for any person who has not received a certificate of qualification or not been granted a practice privilege under GS 93-10 admitting the person to practice as a certified public accountant to assume or use such a title, or to

use any words, letters, abbreviations, symbols or other means of identification to indicate that the person using same has been admitted to practice as a certified public accountant."

WHEREAS, pursuant to N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-6, "It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in the public practice of accountancy in this State who is not a holder of a certificate as a certified public accountant issued by the Board, unless such person uses the term 'accountant' and only the term 'accountant' in connection with his name on all reports, letters of transmittal, or advice, and on all stationery and documents used in connection with his services as an accountant, and refrains from the use in any manner of any other title or designation in such practice."

WHEREAS, Respondent Michael James Schierbeek (hereinafter "Respondent Schierbeek") is not actively licensed as a certified public accountant in North Carolina or otherwise authorized by the Board to use the CPA title in this State, but his principal place of business is in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Respondent Schierbeek, in April of 2013, was granted "inactive" status for his North Carolina CPA license. Per that application, he agreed, "I certify under oath that I will not identify myself as a CPA to any person in any manner ... as long

# Comment or Suggestion about the Activity Review?

The Board welcomes your comments and suggestions about information published in the *Activity Review*.

Please send your comments and suggestions about the newsletter to communications @nccpaboard.gov.

as I remain on inactive status."

WHEREAS, Respondent Schierbeek, while on inactive status, identified himself to be a CPA in the State of North Carolina in his Preparer Tax Identification Number registration with the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), thereby indicating that he prepared tax returns as a CPA in the State of North Carolina in contravention of N. C. Gen. Stat. §93-3 and §93-6.

THEREFORE, Respondent Schierbeek and the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners hereby agree that Respondent Schierbeek shall immediately cease and desist from using in any manner the title "CPA" or "Certified Public Accountant" in North Carolina unless and until licensed as a CPA by the North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners.

## North Carolina State Board of Certified Public Accountant Examiners

By: Robert N. Brooks,

**Executive Director** 

Date: 02/25/2015

In lieu of civil proceedings authorized by N.C. Gen. Stat. §93-12(16), the Board will accept Respondent's consent to this Demand.

Consented to By:

Michael James Schierbeek

Date: 03/13/2015

## **Board Meetings**

August 24

September 21

October 22

November 16

December 14

Unless otherwise noted, meetings are held at the Board office at 1101 Oberlin Road, Raleigh, and begin at 10:00 a.m.

# 21 NCAC 08G .0409, Computation of CPE Credits, Amended Effective July 1, 2015

## Continued from Page 1

plete a course. A contact hour shall be 50 minutes and one-half contact hour shall be 25 minutes of course material. No self-study course may contain less than 25 minutes of course material.

(d) Instructing a CPE Course. CPE credit for teaching or presenting a CPE course for CPAs shall be given based on the number of contact hours spent in preparing and presenting the course. No more than 50 percent of the CPE credits required for a year shall be credits for preparing for and presenting CPE courses. CPE credit for preparing or presenting a course shall be allowed only once a year for a course presented

more than once in the same year by the same CPA.

- (e) Authoring a Publication. CPE credit for published articles and books shall be given based on the number of contact hours the CPA spent writing the article or book. No more than 25 percent of a CPA's required CPE credits for a year shall be credits for published articles or books. An article written for a CPA's client or business newsletter shall not receive CPE credit.
- (f) Instructing a Graduate Level College Course. CPE credit for instructing a graduate level college course shall be given based on the number of credit hours the college gives a stu-

dent for successfully completing the course, using the calculation set forth in Paragraph (b) of this Rule. Credit shall not be given for instructing a course in which there is credit given towards an undergraduate degree.

(g) No more than 50 percent of the CPE credits required for a year shall be credits claimed under Paragraph (d) and (f) of this Rule.

If you have questions regarding the amended rule, please contact the Board's Executive Director by email at rbrooks@nccpaboard.gov or the Board's Deputy Director by email at dnance@nccpboard.gov.

## Am I Required to Purchase an Annual Privilege License?

North Carolina General Statute 105-41(c) states, "every person engaged in the public practice of accounting as a principal, or as a manager of the business of public accountant, shall pay for such license fifty dollars (\$50.00), and in addition shall pay a license tax of twelve dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) for each person employed who is engaged in the capacity of supervising or handling the work of auditing, devising or installing systems of accounts."

Therefore, if you are an owner, principal, or manager in a CPA firm or business providing accounting services to third parties, you are required

## **Certificates Issued**

On June 22, 2015, the Board approved the following applicants for licensure as North Carolina CPAs:

Kelly-Jean Kwiatkowski Richard Earl Shepherd Phyboone Boutdy Srinukool J. Peter Stratos to purchase the \$50.00 annual privilege license from the North Carolina Department of Revenue (NCDOR).

As an owner, principal, or manager, you also are required to pay a \$12.50 fee for an annual privilege license for any other employees of the CPA firm or business, CPA or non-CPA, providing accounting services.

Accounting services include, but are not limited to, audits, reviews, compilations, financial statements, agreed-upon procedures, book-keeping, tax return preparation, tax reports, professional services or assistance relating to accounting procedure and systems, tax consulting, and management advisory services.

CPAs employed in business, industry, government, or education are not required to purchase an annual privilege license from the NCDOR.

However, a CPA engaged in the public practice of accounting who provides any of the above-noted services outside his or her government, business and industry, or education employment (such as a seasonal tax preparation

firm) is required to purchase an annual \$50.00 privilege license.

According to the NCDOR, a non-resident CPA engaged in the public practice of accountancy by providing any of the services noted above through mobility is required to purchase an annual \$50.00 privilege license.

A privilege license is issued on an annual basis as a personal privilege license; the license is issued in the name of the individual with the individual's social security number. A privilege license is not issued in the name of a firm or corporation.

The privilege license must be obtained from the NCDOR prior to engaging in business. It is unlawful to engage in business without obtaining a required privilege license.

For additional information regarding the privilege license requirement or to obtain Form B-202A, "Application for State Privilege License," contact the Taxpayer Assistance Division of the NCDOR by telephone at 1-877-308-9103 or visit the NCDOR website, www.dornc.com/taxes/license.

## **Inactive Status**

"Inactive," when used to refer to the status of a person, describes a person who has requested inactive status and been approved by the Board and who does not use the title "certified public accountant" nor does he or she allow anyone to refer to him or her as a "certified public accountant," and neither he nor she nor anyone else refers to him or her in any representation as described in Rule .0308(b) of this Section [21 NCAC 08A .0301(b)(20)].

#### 05/21/2015

Gerald Lee Stanley, #9320, Bratislava, Slovakia Hongyan Niu Tsang, #35255, Cary, NC

#### 05/26/2015

Sandra Hinson Brown, #19025, Wilmington, NC Roger Alan Harbeson, #29517, New Albany, IN Emily Jo Throndson, #37889, Sorghof, Germany Joel Jeffrey Eugene Young, #21874, Morristown, TN

#### 05/27/2015

Gregory Allen Cockerel, #29515, New Albany, IN Jason Cole Crawford, #35856, Lewis Center, OH John Robert Hattle, #31586, Tobaccoville, NC James Wiley Jones, #8957, Evans, GA William Edward Ridenour, #8797, Greensboro, NC

#### 05/28/2015

Therese Reynolds Burkhart, #38846, Fuquay-Varina, NC Allan R. Goheen, #18698, Cornelius, NC Andrew Michael Tilley, #37700, Atlanta, GA

#### 06/02/2015

Ali Riad Ajami, #36838, Seattle, WA
John Roland Farley, #1321, Greenville, NC
Patrick Ryan Kinley, #33749, Fly Creek, NY
Deborah Summersett Larke, #14866, Charlotte, NC
Ronald Coleman Smith, #22331, Burlington, NC
John W. Stewart, #29476, Manakin Sabot, VA
Dianne Cox Tanner, #22888, Asheboro, NC

#### 06/03/2015

Jill Katherine Crook, #34743, Raleigh, NC Brian Lloyd Derksen, #11949, Dallas, TX Teresa F. Poindexter, #22067, Maiden, NC

#### 06/04/2015

Jack Daniel London, Jr., #6794, Chattanooga, TN

#### 06/05/2015

Lynn Edward Johnson, #7401, Hendersonville, NC Joseph Thomas Jordan, Jr., #4148, Raleigh, NC Daniel Woo Lim, #32529, Daly City, CA Larry Earl Milan, Jr., #13389, Myrtle Beach, SC Charles J. Shearer, #31034, Fuquay-Varina, NC Robert Hampton Wiggins, Jr., #15237, Charlotte, NC

### 06/08/2015

Madeline Daubert, #15336, Flat Rock, NC

### 06/09/2015

Laura Brown Bearden, #34697, Nashville,TN
Robert Michael Davidson, #38274, Ocoee, FL
Thomas Chester Edgley Sovereign, #37284, Indianapolis, IN
Bradley Guy Hauss, #34560, Charleston, SC
Laura Adack Huntley, #33551, Glen Mills, PA
Doris Faye Monroe, #7170, Red Oak, TX
Carolyn Devine Saint, #34155, Troutman, NC
Donarene Behymer Steele, #20944, Atlanta, GA
Evelyn Womack White, #17703, Mebane, NC

#### 06/10/2015

Flora Belle Getz, #15247, Marietta, GA

#### 06/11/2015

Latrice Catherine Smith Collins, #31676, Dallas, TX Sheryl L. France, #36865, Greensboro, NC Kimberly Atwood Jackson, #27894, Oak Ridge, NC

#### 06/11/2015

Pamela Higgins Mayo, #21013, Hillsboro, OR David Anthony Orr, #34634, Cornelius, NC Gary Lynn Smith, #14480, Summerfield, NC

#### 06/15/2015

Daniel Morris Barbour, #15330, Greensboro, NC David G. Bullock, #24515, Charlotte, NC Holly Dannegger Crumpler, #19662, Raleigh, NC Colleen Joy Hacker, #28542, Matthews, NC Laurie Allen Johnson, #32831, Portland, ME Thomas Eugene Medlin, #19064, Morrisville, NC David A. Melton #27692, Yadkinville, NC Timothy David Nelson, #37184, Winston-Salem, NC Eddie Ray Nickoles, #12542, Birmingham, AL John Douglas Royster, #10823, Bermuda Run, NC Sandra Edwards Shirley, #20652, San Antonio, TX Linwood Donnie Stancil, Jr., #19893, Kinston, NC Susan Kathleen Stell, #19896, Davidson, NC

#### 06/16/2015

Karen May Bowling, #38433, Knoxville, TN Charles Leder, #3312, Miami, FL Laura McGrath, #13667, New York, NY Susan McBride Richardson, #19686, Mobile, AL Kimberly Gale Shabosky, #33163, Concord, NC

#### 06/17/2015

Rebecca Jane Beilstein, #28200, Cornelius, NC John Chalmers Eagle, Jr., #1960, Kings Mountain, NC David Nelson, #15206, Troutman, NC Richard Alan Whitener, #14066, Greenville, NC

### 06/19/2015

Joanne A. Rausch, #33360, Holly Springs, NC

### 06/22/2015

Elizabeth Burgess Beasley, #24407, Charlotte, NC Daniel Franklin Fuller, #8789, Humble, TX

### 06/23/2015

James Richard Burnett, #5187, Clarksville, VA Richard Scott Hoffman, #13784, Cordova, TN John Vincent Klosek, #14812, Charlotte, NC Charles Edgar McNealy, #18271, Fort Mill, SC Rebecca Jean Slaughter, #15515, Raleigh, NC Ann Marie White, #16907, Charlotte, NC

#### 06/24/2015

Lindsey Kay Angus, #34143, Howell, MI
Michael Anthony Federico, #34842, Parkland, FL
John Edel Gerke, #12007, Winston-Salem, NC
Rachel Preusz Gulledge, #20826, Canton, MI
Suzan Rayfield Maddox #28906, Holly Springs, NC
Sylvester Anthony Marino, #22824, Tarrytown, NY
Russell Jeffrey Petty, #24255, Henrico, VA
Jordan Paul Utley, #35883, Richmond, VA

## **Contacting the Board**

**Executive Staff** 

Robert N. Brooks, Executive Director 919/733-1425 rbrooks@nccpaboard.gov

David R. Nance, CPA, Deputy Director 919/733-4215 dnance@nccpaboard.gov

Board operations, personnel matters, Board meetings, financial matters, rule-making

**Administrative Services** 

Felecia Ashe, Accounting Specialist 919/733-4223 feleciaa@nccpaboard.gov

general accounting, accounts receivable/payable, vendor relations

Vanessia Willet, Customer Service Rep 919/733-4222 vanessiaw@nccpaboard.gov

switchboard, address changes, general Board information

**Communications** 

Lisa R. Hearne, Manager 919/733-4208 lhearne@nccpaboard.gov

website content, newsletter, press releases, public record information, social media

**Examinations** 

Phyllis Elliott, Specialist 919/733-4224 phyllise@nccpaboard.gov

initial and re-exam applications, applicant eligibility, score release

Licensing

Buck Winslow, Manager 919/733-1421 buckw@nccpaboard.gov

Alice Grigsby, Specialist 919/733-1422 aliceg@nccpaboard.gov

individual licensure & renewal, inactive status

Cammie Emery, Assistant 919/733-1423 cemery@nccpaboard.gov

firm registration & renewal, peer review, CPE, CPE audit

**Professional Standards** 

Frank X. Trainor, III, Staff Attorney

919/715-9185

ftrainor@nccpaboard.gov

Mary Beth Britt, Specialist

919/715-2455

mbbritt@nccpaboard.gov

Jean Marie Small, Specialist 919/733-1424 jsmall@nccpaboard.gov

Kayla White, Assistant 919/715-8412 kaylawhite@nccpaboard.gov

complaints against CPAs & firms, unauthorized use of title, professional ethics & conduct

Fax 919/733-4209

Website www.nccpaboard.gov

**Social Media** 

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Postal Address PO Box 12827, Raleigh, NC 27605-2827

Street Address/Delivery Address 1101 Oberlin Road, Suite 104, Raleigh, NC 27605-1169

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## Check the Status of **Your Application**

Exam and license applicants can check the status of their applications through the Board's website, www .nccpaboard.gov.

To check the status of an application, an applicant will enter his or her last name, date of birth, and the last four (4) digits of his or her Social Security number.

A screen showing the applicant's information, the pending items (required documents, payments, etc.), and the status of the pending items will display.



# **Notice of Address Change**

Please Print Legibly				
Full Name:				
Certificate No.:		Last 4 Digits of SSN:		
Home Address:				
City/State/Zip:				
Home Phone:		Home Fax:		
Home Email:				
Firm/Business Name:				
Business Address:				
City/State/Zip:				
Business Phone:		Business Fax:		
Business Email:				
Signature:				
Date:	Send mail to:	☐ Home	Business	
Mail form to: PO Box 12827, Raleigh, NC 27605				

Pursuant to 21 NCAC 08J .0107, all certificate holders & CPA firms shall notify the Board in writing within 30 days of any change in home address & phone number; CPA firm address & phone number; business

Fax form to: (919) 733-4209

location & phone number; & email address.